

dense woods and a deep marsh. The companies moved out to the advance and were in communication by runner with the First Battalion, 321st Infantry, but were slightly in rear of its advance. Their final position is shown on the Position Sketch.

---

### THE ADVANCE MESSAGE CENTER.

At 8:00 a. m. (8 hours) the Operations Officer, with two runners, were sent forward from regimental P. C. to establish an advance message center in Moranville. On the way up toward the front lines, he found a number of soldiers who had become lost from their organizations; these he gathered together and took with him eastward along the Moulainville-Moranville road. By the time he reached the village, he had a detachment of forty or more men, which he organized into ammunition and stretcher carriers. About half of the men were turned over to the Commanding Officer, Company C, 317th Machine Gun Battalion, who was found in Moranville without ammunition for his company, and they were sent back to bring up cases of ammunition which had been dumped on the road during the night. The rest of the men, with the exception of six men who were retained as runners for the message center, were turned